

los angeles valley college's VALLEY STAR

the independent student newspaper



GIRL SCOUTS COOKIES AND DISPE-
NARIES ARE A PERFECT COMBO.



BSU CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY
MONTH.



LADY MONARCHS ADVANCE TO THE
NEXT ROUND OF PLAYOFFS.

thevalleystar.com

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Volume 80 Issue 2

VALLEY STUDENTS RALLY AT THE CAPITOL FOR CHANGE

ASU students and members head to Sacramento for its annual rally to support making education affordable.

JACQUELINE CARTER
COPY EDITOR

"Classroom to the capitol" is this year's theme as students from all over California head to the capitol steps in Sacramento for its annual rally on March 3.

The March in March is an advocacy event traditionally organized by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC). The SSCCC, which was formed in 2006, protects the rights and interests of people who are enrolled in public community colleges in the state of California. They represent approximately 2.4 million students of the California Community College System.

Valley College is being represented by the Associated Student Union (ASU), which advocates for students issues and concerns. The group is expected to take part in the march that begins at Raley Field and ends the State Capitol Building.

"The good news, is that this time there were no budget cuts," said ASU President, Alexia Johnson. "The major issue this year is the proposed Oil Severance Tax, which would support more money being given to community colleges for education."

A bill drafted in support of the California Modernization and Economic Development (CMED) Act states that: "The revenue rose, which is an estimated \$2 billion annually, (\$300 million of which would go to California Community Colleges) would be used to make a college education more affordable and improve social services and parks according to the Associated Students University of California website: asuc.org."

"I think it's a good idea," said undecided major, Alicia Saab regarding the bill. "If the money will be used for education and to bring back the programs, they took away, why not?"

Opponents of the tax are concerned that it would increase oil and gas prices in California, which is unlikely since the prices are determined by neither the state's economy nor the nation's economy but rather by global supply and demand.

California is the fourth-largest oil producer in the United States, behind Texas, Alaska and North Dakota, but it is the only state in the country that does not tax oil and gas drilling.

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BLACK HERITAGE CELEBRATION - BSU organized a celebration for Black History Month on the dates of Feb. 24 to Feb 27 at Valley College.

NATALIA CAMERONI, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR

MONARCHS RECEIVE CLARITY ON OBAMA CARE

A team from USC aims to inform and give a helping hand to Valley students.

SHABAZ KAZIA
STAFF WRITER

Canopies and tables are set up outside Valley's Administration Building; students are getting educated on taking their first step at having health insurance through Covered California.

Stationed outside the Administration Building is Dr. Karen L. Ravago, Researcher and Report Director for USC's Operation and Education program.

Dr. Ravago informed us that USC received federal funding from Covered California to set up various information desks in local community colleges that help students figure out the best health-care policy for their individual needs.

USC's program has also enlisted Monarchs pre-med biology major Sasha Nadir and sociology major Natali Miltcharek to go to various classrooms and educate students on Covered California's options.

Former ASU staffer Nadir explained that USC's H.O.M.E (Health Outreach through Mobile Education) alongside with S.T.E.M (Student Teaching Engagement Model) projects have employed student like herself and Miltcharek as a peer to peer approach.

Dr. Darnell Cole is responsible for this public awareness campaign, and his project was awarded \$500,000 by Covered California health benefit exchange. Students being more approachable than a

random stranger is the strategy that makes cautious students feel more comfortable.

"Students who don't already know about Covered CA are usually a little skeptical of our intentions when we first approach them," said Nadir. "But once we clear up some of the misconceptions people have about Obama Care, the response is great."

Along with being ill-informed, most students are probably unaware that they might be eligible for free health care based on their annual income.

According to Sasha, they have received great positive feedback from faculty and staff who

have been very supportive and appreciative of the work they are doing. Students who are interested in enrolling are urged to make their way to the Student Services Center Conference room located in between the counseling office and the administration building.

Covered CA reps are helping students in need of healthcare with the enrollment process, guiding them through the procedure and mainstreaming the whole ordeal.

Dr. Ravago hopes that students in need of coverage apply before the deadline on March 15 to choose a plan if they want to be covered in April. The last day to make a payment for coverage in

April is March 26. With the deadline only a few weeks away, the efforts of the USC project couldn't haven't been more effective.

"[The] Covered CA attendant was very helpful," said history major Martin Brown. "At answering my question and clarifying the whole process."

The information desk is available Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. if any Valley student needs clarification or just has general questions about the process.

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COVERED CALIFORNIA - Monarchs discover affordable health care through USC Covered California program.

WWW.KCRA.COM

MONARCHS LEAVE FINANCIAL FREE- BIES UNCLAIMED

Generally unknown foundation office awards scholarships to students.

STEPHANIE MENDOZA
STAFF WRITER

Valley College is offering various scholarships to students during the spring semester. The only problem is that most Monarchs do not know the location of the Los Angeles Valley College Foundation.

"I do not know the location of the LAVC Foundation," said business major Crystal Peñate. "But I do know the school offers scholarships, but I have never applied for a scholarship."

Any student can apply for a scholarship before the deadline of March 14. Last year, an estimated of 1,300 to 1,400 students applied; out of those students, 280-300 were awarded scholarships, according to the Executive Director of the Los Angeles Valley College Foundation, Raul Castillo

Most scholarship requires students to have at least 2.5 GPA. However, there are three scholarships that do not require a GPA: the Dr. Tyree Wieder Student Scholarships, Cilo Hidalgo, Jr. Valley Pride Scholarships, and The Bernard Osher Scholarships.

Students must have at least nine units to qualify for a scholarship. But being a Valley student is not a requirement; as long as the student has classes at one of the nine schools in the Los Angeles Community College District they can qualify, according to Castillo.

For students who are not American citizens, they can apply for almost every scholarship except for the National Notary Foundation Scholarship in Journalism.

"These scholarships come from private donations," said Castillo. "They are not government subsidies but they are from people that want to help the students."

To apply for a scholarship the student's workers there or the executive director of the foundation will ask questions in order to help students get the right scholarship application. However, the applications themselves have all the requirements needed.

"We are not an office. This is not a scholarship office. We are a fundraising office. We raise money for scholarships; we only administer scholarships during the third week of January to March," said Castillo. We posted fliers on the campus bulletin, and posted about the scholarships on the campus Facebook page."

The Los Angeles Valley College Foundation is located in the Administration Building near the library. Monarchs can apply for scholarships before the deadline of March 14.

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THE VALLEY STAR INFO & STAFF

THE VALLEY STAR is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program.

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VALLEY PROVIDES FREE TESTING FOR STUDENTS

On-campus testing offers students peace of mind through HIV and Hepatitis C testing.

KARINA TOVAR
STAFF WRITER

Valley College raises awareness to stop the spread of sexually transmitted diseases through free on-campus testing.

The student Health Center has partnered with the Tarzana Treatment Center to sponsor HIV and Hepatitis C testing through a mobile location next to the Allied Health and Sciences Center.

The process takes about fifteen minutes and students are able to receive their results instantly. The staff on board is professional, knowledgeable, and understands the need for discretion.

"We respect people's privacy and confidentiality," said Anthony Amado, the Health Educator at the Tarzana Health Center. "This is very, very confidential."

There are 1.2 million people in the U.S. alone who are HIV positive. As of 2013, 70,000 are hosts to the virus in LA County.

Among the group infected, 20% to 25% are unaware that they are carriers of the disease and unknowingly contribute to its spread.

Roughly 18,000 students attend Valley College yearly, and 1 in 200 are HIV positive.

Seventy-five-percent of those infected are men and 25% are women. African Americans make up 50% of the carriers and Hispanics make up 30%.

"We are urging the minority population to get tested," said Amado. "The earlier HIV is detected,



KARINA TOVAR, STAFF WRITER | VALLEY STAR
HIV MOBILE TESTING - Tarzana Treatment mobile testing located next to the Allied Health and Sciences Center.

ed, the better."

A stigma surrounding the HIV virus is that it is no longer as prevalent as it was during the 80's among homosexuals.

This kind of thinking might lead someone to believe they have no reason to get tested. In reality, the virus is still present with infection rates rising within the age group of 14 to 28.

"It's not talked about as much as it was in the 80's," explained Amado. "But it's out there and it's still a failed disease; there's no cure yet."

When students were asked if they were going to get tested, most replied that they were unaware that on-campus testing was available.

Some Valley students even sup-

ported the stigma surrounding the virus and shot down the idea of getting tested.

"We're not gay" replied Lenny Esho, a computer engineer major, when asked if he and his friend were aware the service was available.

Other students said that they would have gotten tested had they known the service was offered monthly at Valley.

"Now that I know, I might as well (get tested)," said electrical engineer major Victor Gutierrez. "For the sake of the students, Valley should at least try and promote a little more."

The reason behind the lack of publicity for the event is the need for privacy. Students might not want to

get tested if there's too much attention surrounding the mobile testing site.

"It's a two way situation," said Sonia Nodal, the Physician Assistant for the Student Health Center. "We try to keep things private; too much publicity might deter students."

Students can learn more on HIV and Hepatitis C by contacting the Student Health Center at (818) 947-2920. The next dates to get tested are March 11 and April 17 during the Career and Health Fair, and May 7.

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CAMPUS EAGRLY AWAITS THE NEW AND IMPROVE MONARCH CENTER

Valley new Monarch Center as the focal point of campus.

STEPHAINE MENDOZA
STAFF WRITER

Where the demolished cafeteria once stood, the new Monarch Center will be located; the doors will open in the summer of 2015.

The two-story building will include the cafeteria, the campus bookstore, Student Health Center, business office and the Associated Student Union new offices (ASU); everything a student will need in one place. Not to mention a coffee shop and the "Lion's Den" — a place where Monarchs can relax and study.

"That's a great idea," said

business student Guadalupe Hernandez. "Students like myself won't have to walk to different directions to go to different locations. It's more convenient this way because it will all be in one place."

The center will be available for staff and faculty, but it will be a more student focused building. It will have a panoramic view of the campus, and the cafeteria will have an outside patio for events as well as many tables and chairs.

However, since the school is cutting back on classes, how can the school pay for new construction? Valley is not funding the construction of the new Monarch Center out of their pocket; instead it is being bond funded.

The taxpayer's money, which was voted recently to help schools construct new buildings for the

campus and for the students, allows constructions like this new building to happen.

The estimated cost of the construction is \$30,000,000, and the Monarch Center will be 66,118 square-feet.

"Right now, the state architect is reviewing the design of the building," said Benevento. "And will be hopefully be approved so that the construction workers can begin building the Monarch center this upcoming April and will hopefully be ready by the summer of 2015."

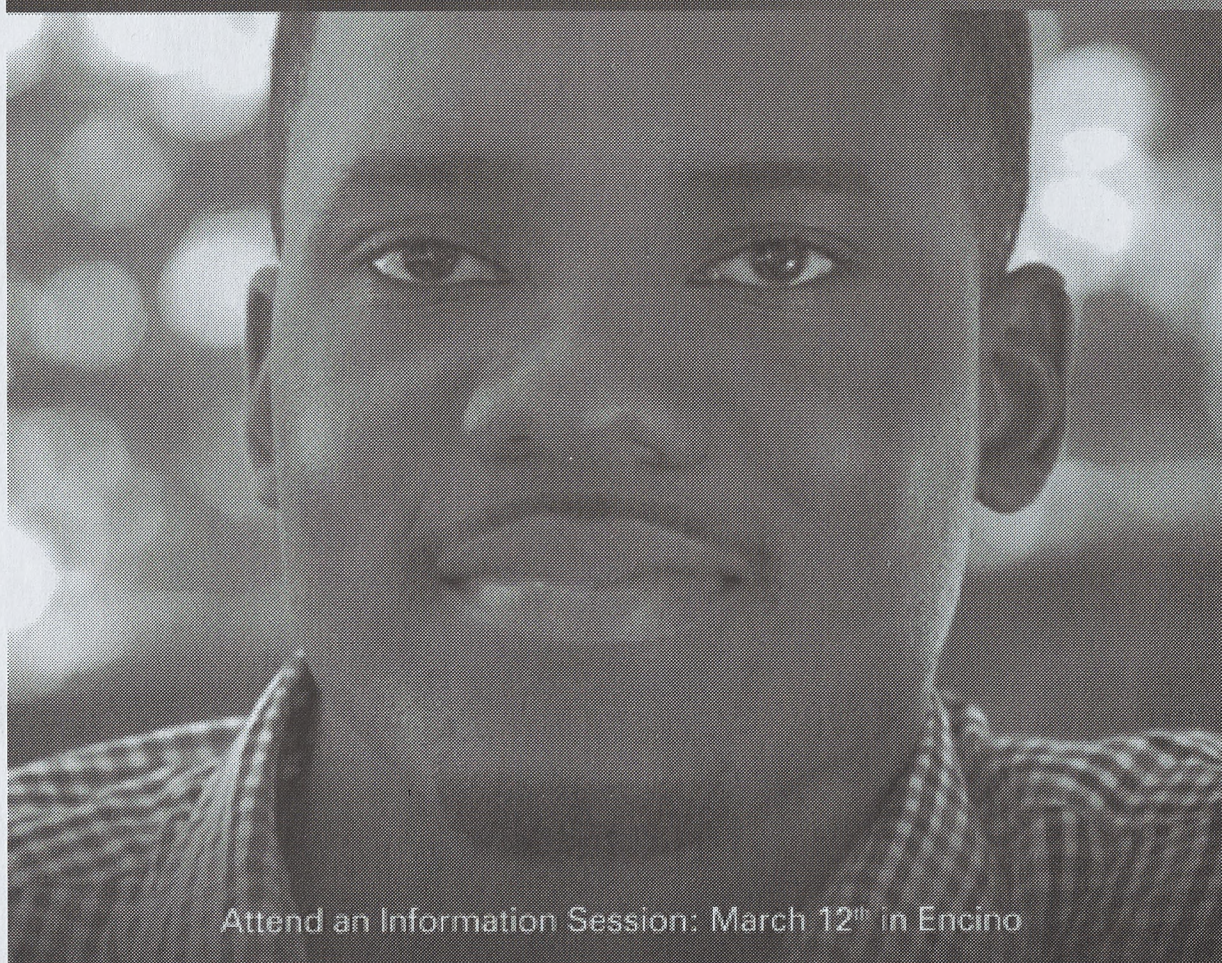
The construction is currently being halted at the moment while the state architect approves the design. It will open for students by the summer of 2015.

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JAY GILLILAND, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR
FUTURE MONARCH CENTER - Construction continues for the new Center at Valley College, near Monarch Hall.

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GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES “HIT” JACKPOT

PATRICIA RIVERA
STAFF WRITER

San Francisco girl scouts target munchies-prone users for big bucks.

Who would have thought that cannabis and cookies go so well together; 13-year-old Danielle Lei, did. This Girl Scout sold 117 boxes of cookies within two hours of setting up her stand outside of The Green Cross medical marijuana dispensary in San Francisco.

With the prices of Girl Scout cookies going up to \$5 in Northern California and Hawaii, making them the highest priced Girl Scout Cookies in the U.S., the young sellers have had to come up with savvy ways and places to sell their product. Lei and her mother found that people with munchies tend to buy things to munch on, hence supply and demand.

This business savvy little girl has found a connection between the effects of marijuana and the product she is pushing. The Girl Scouts of Northern California said in a statement that it issues safety guidelines, but does not dictate where sales can be held.

“We respect that individual sales and booth decisions will vary for different families and within the context of their communities,” said the council to CBS News.

That leaves the decision up



COOKIE MONSTER - Two entrepreneurs collaborating marketing techniques and strategies in an effort to adapt to the modern cannabis market.

to the families on where they choose to sell their goods. It shouldn't be an issue since the Girl Scouts are not inside of the dispensaries nor are they buying pot or making any kind of exchange, other than cookies and money.

Colorado is new to the legalization of marijuana and

has opted to not let their Girl Scouts sell cookies outside of bars, liquor stores, and dispensaries. It just doesn't make sense, why must those places be deprived of the famously delicious cookies?

The Girl Scouts have one mission and that is to sell their cookies. It should not matter

where they choose to sell as long as their parents deem the place safe and girls are supervised, then the location should not matter. Other parents have decided that setting up shop outside of dispensaries is a great way sell their cookies. Heidi Carney and her 8-year-old daughter have

also opted to sell cookies outside of cannabis shops.

“For me, this isn't anything controversial,” said Heidi Carney to CBS News. “It's medication. It's no different than standing in front of a Walgreens or a CVS.”

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E-CIGS FACE SCRUTINY

OCTOBER PRIMAVERA
STAFF WRITER

Valley administration considers placing e-cig users on same plateau as regular cigarette smokers.

Should e-cigarettes fall under the umbrella of Valley College's strict anti-smoking policy? There are very few designated smoking areas on campus and it has been hotly debated on if nicotine of the vapor variety should be limited to just those locations.

Digital cigarettes have undeniably become increasingly popular over the past couple of years, many rejoice over the invention due to their claims to be less harmful, the lack of lingering odor, and the countless cases of helping long-term habitual smokers to quit. But do they belong in school?

Rachel Liner, 20, a psychology major shares, “The smell of regular cigarettes bothers me, while digital doesn't, and most of them smell sweet.”

With no evidence of any negative effects to anyone around this product, what could the harm be on smoking them in most, if not all,

places? The new rules on campus don't state either way if the rules apply to e-cigarettes but administration has told us that the schools work environment committee has recommended that digital cigarettes be treated the same as regular cigarettes and be limited to just the designated smoking areas. This has now been passed onto the President's office, which holds the final decision.

With news that there will be a decision either way in the near future, staff members weigh in on what they think about the idea of smoking in the buildings.

“I support it in most situations but in the classroom I feel like, although not harmful, they would cause too much of a distraction.” Said Anthony Amey, assistant for the counseling department who can often be found helping students in the front office.

In the days where you smoked everywhere, you still didn't smoke in the classroom. Should we be allowed to enjoy form of recreation in the learning environment? Probably not, but there is a big difference between taking away from the educational experience and being restricted to four little sections of campus.

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OPPRESSED HOMOSEXUAL UGANDANS CRIMINALIZED WITH LIFE IN PRISON

ALTON PITRE
STAFF WRITER

Ugandan leader's “kill the gays” bill legally condemns same-sex relations.

Homosexuality is unaccepted and unwelcomed in many societies today, that is understandable. However, life imprisonment for being gay has got to be the most apathetic and severest legal crime ever put into law.

President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda recently enacted the “Uganda Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2014”. This new legislative bill broadens the criminalization of same-sex relations in the African country and includes penalties for individuals, companies, media organizations, or non-governmental organizations that know of gay people or support lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. The fracture

of this crime can lead up to life in prison or even the death penalty.

According to human rights organizations, there are at least 500,000 gay people that live in Uganda out of a total population of 31 million. This law potentially incriminates hundreds of thousands if not millions of Ugandan citizens. It is already an absurd act to imprison a human for liking the same sex, but a whole new life is deprived when you involve and target outside parties for the simple knowledge of being aware of someone's sexual preference. This despicable crime of guilt by association is ridiculous.

“I feel really sad about it [the new law] and like really bad because it's not right,” said undecided major Aiosa Edobor. “They [homosexuals] should [be able to] do whatever makes them happy, it's their choice. We should just let them be.”

Homosexuality does not have to be condoned by a society but that does not mean they should be punished by one, let alone restricted to do certain things heterosexuals are able to. The world can create as many strict and anti-gay laws as possible but that will never extinct the gay population. In its act to deplete the licentious race, the Uganda Anti-Homosexuality Act will enable the homosexual community to bond and mend more closely together than ever before. It is like sending a criminal off to jail to learn a lesson. Instead he learns how to become a better criminal as he is amongst nothing but fellow criminals. It will enhance their intelligence to camouflage and magnify their existence. The ratification of Uganda's anti-gay law further proves the compassion and sympathy the universe lacks.

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ZAIN'S BRAIN TECHNOLOGICAL DYSTOPIA IS APPROACHING

ZAIN ABOURAIA

Freedom of speech on the net nearly diminished by control hungry corporations.

Few people have heard the phrase “net neutrality” and fewer know what that means or why it is important. Network neutrality essentially is the principle that all information on the internet should be free and equally accessible to everyone on the planet. Worse than that, this concept that should be accepted under the umbrella of human rights, has been suppressed by those who stand to profit.

A recent federal appeals court ruling held that the Federal Communications Commission did not have the authority to enforce the regulations adopted by the FCC in 2010 and almost as if it were scripted, Netflix agreed to pay Comcast for access to its broadband network directly, allowing for higher streaming speeds. Now Comcast has its sights on Time Warner Cable. AT&T, Google, Microsoft and Facebook all have paid-connection deals with major internet service providers.

“Net neutrality is the idea of keeping the internet neutral. Anyone can go out and write a book, get it published and you could have it in the library,” Said electrical engineering major, Michael Rydinsky, illustrating a tier system. “Imagine they tuck it away in the back corner or have it on a shelf in the front and made it hard to get.”

What all of this boils down to is a set of cyber-atrocities that are as of this moment 100% legal. Tier systems, the consolidation of information is and should be abhorrent to everyone, it is un-American. He who has the power to control the flow of information can censor and silence anyone they want, more than that they can control what you are exposed to. That is on top of making you pay for services that used to be free.

What is the utility of the internet if it is unusable as the public resource that it is and always was? Why try to make the next YouTube or Vine sensation if your video loads five times slower than a corporation or studio that is not creating anything of artistic merit, but is just using these populist tools for their profit margins.

Get ready monarchs, this is real now; you cannot ignore the argument anymore, dismissing it as tech-nerd talk. You may not care about prison reform, the National Defense Authorization Act, catastrophic climate change, terrorism or anything as vague and ethereal as any of those things. You need to care about this, because it infringes on the one freedom 18 to 25-year-olds actually care about: a free Internet open to all.

E-mail Zain Abouria at opinion@lavalleystar.com Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com

GOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

Letters to the editor can be sent to: editor@lavalleystar.com or submitted online at www.thevalleystar.com. Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed. Send by Thursday for the following week's issue.

VALLEY VIEW

SHOULD ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES BE ALLOWED IN CLASSROOMS?



“No because putting toxins that aren't natural to inhale the classroom atmosphere.”
- JESSE RICALDI
PSYCHOLOGY



“No because it doesn't seem right for the class environment. There's a time and place for that.”
- ZAREH ODABASHIAN
ASTRO PHYSICS



“No because the smell may disturb the students.”
- RODGER RODRIGUEZ
UNDECIDED



“Yes because people are addicted and this would allow students to stay in class, instead of missing the lectures.”
- ALBERTO FLORES
UNDECIDED



“It should be because there's a lot of people addicted to nicotine and they need to smoke during class.”
- JORGE RENTERIA
COMPUTER SCIENCE

PHOTOS BY ROSHON BONNER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR

VALLEY BROADENS HORIZON WITH BLACK HERITAGE

BSU celebrates African-American culture with a gala of events.

ALEXANDRA AVENDANO
STAFF WRITER

Sankofa, a word originating from the Akan language of Ghana, translates to English as “to reach back and take.”

This theme was visible throughout the day at Valley College’s Black Heritage Week celebration.

Staff, faculty and students were invited to learn about the events in history which have defined our society. The Black Student Union kicked off what they hope will become an annual event on Feb. 24.

The event featured a variety of activities ranging from a screening of a film documenting the struggles of African-American university students, to dancers performing to traditional music. Tri-fold displays were along the walls of the Student Services Multi-Purpose Room. Each event was carefully selected by many including African-American studies professor, Dr. Keidra Morris.

“When we started planning the events, we wanted to celebrate both the African-American diaspora presented in the United States and their roots,” Morris said.

Planning for the week-long celebration began in November of last year to ensure enough preparation to honor black history and urge students to become involved in their ancestry.

“These events were planned for



ROSHON BONNER, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR

RHYTHM OF THE DRUMS—“The Garifunas” performing their traditional dances at the Student Services Plaza on Feb. 26

the chance that students would get to know each other, and get a taste of the events that are going to happen later on,” said BSU president Christiana Brickhouse.

The showing of the viral video “The Black Bruins (Spoken Word)” began on Monday. The short video focused on the ongoing issues of low enrollment numbers and the even lower graduation rate of black-male students, at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Staff and faculty gathered on Tuesday to discuss the prevalent topics on campus and the possible solutions.

BSU, along with 10 other on-campus clubs, were on hand Wednesday for “Black Heritage Club Day” to encourage students to join their organizations, while enjoying the music of “The Garifunas” — descendants of Carib, Arawak and the West African people.

Thursday, the final day of the

celebration featured a display of pivotal moments in black history exploring the ways these events have affected the development of an ethnicity.

“The symbol for sankofa is represented by a bird flying forward, with its head turning back and a pregnant stomach,” Morris said. “We hope that by looking back at the past from which we come good and bad we can discover more and more about ourselves by defining who we are.”

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DENIM COMEBACK; REMIXED

This spring fashion moguls go retro on the runway with classic blue denim.

JHANELLE RIVERA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With spring awakening, this season denim on denim has blossomed off the runway into the streets.

For more than 130 years, denim has made a massive impact in America’s fashion. Levi Stauss and Jacob Davis, founders of the jeans in the Gold Rush era, originally invented the “blue jean” for heavy duty workers such as miners; the company has gone through radical changes since then, including water-proof jeans, introduced in 2011.

Denim became a necessity in common folk’s closets, according to Cotton Incorporated. On average, U.S. consumers have seven pairs of jeans in their wardrobe. However, this spring fashion lovers cannot get enough blue by reintroducing the denim on denim look which would not only appear on the derriere.

Amiya Sherrod, business major and stylist at Chico’s department store described the look as a “modern cow girl” and said her job promotes the layered look by adding embellishments and prints.

“Everyone loves denim but there are so many ways to wear it and it looks good with everything,” said 37-year-old Sherrod. “Denim also looks good with leopard print scarf and with coral jewelry, so many ways to wear it.”

On the Spring/Summer 2014 runways, many designers such as Louis Vuitton, Rebecca Taylor and Donna Karan mixed and matched acid wash, light, dark, and gray denim on overalls, dresses, tops and skirts.

Expect to see patchwork print, as students strut down the hallways on Valley College campus. The infamous blue fabric “Collage,” asymmetrical blazer from artist Altuzarra’s Ready-to-Wear collection gave Bazaar and Vogue magazines a buzz.

“I love denim on denim, I like to do light denim with dark denim,” said communication major Tania Polanco. I like the contrast of the colors. I think that Britney and [Justin Timberlake] did it back in 2001, not knowing it would later become a big trend.”

From the looks of it, this spring trend setters will be having the blues.

EDITOR IN CHIEF
@LAVALLEYSTAR



STOCK PHOTO

Bubble Butt - Bedazzled in denim.

PADRINO’S PIZZARIA KEEPS IT FRESH

Hungry monarchs now have a healthy alternative to the traditional greasy pizza.

KARINA TOVAR
STAFF WRITER

The usually greasy, unhealthy, but deliciously tempting pizza, is now guilt free over at Padrino’s Pizza place.

This small yet comfy establishment offers a wide variety of options on the go that range from wings, pastas, sandwiches, and the childhood favorite calzones.

Students can come by between the hours of 11 and 10 for amazing food and a laid back environment to hangout in. Those looking to save money will also like that between the hours of 11 and 3 lunch combo specials are offered at great deals. About three dollars will allow students to walk out with a filling Brooklyn style pizza slice and their choice of an Arizona Iced Tea, can of soda, or bottled water. Students can also receive a 10% discount on regular priced items by showing their school ID. Wait time for a student grabbing a bite between classes is around five minutes. The entrees offer a Brooklyn style break from the usual fast food options located near campus.

“From the beginning I knew the style I was going for,” said owner Dan Farrands. “It’s made for students on the go.”

This mom n’ pop offers the freedom to create any combination of toppings on any entrée of your choice. From meat lovers to vegetarians, this place offers variety and freshness to all their dishes. The hand made pizza dough and sauce offer a much needed

break from the greasiness offered at other fast food estab-

lishments that only leave you feeling groggy and unsatisfied when finished.

“The main point for us is to be able to control what we make,” said staff member Stefan Looft. “If we can make it in house, we will.”

The only downside to this establishment is the cramped parking lot. With parking spaces being shared between seven other establishments, trying to find parking for

Padrino’s may discourage some students from stopping in for a quick bite. However, the fact that it is only a short walk away from campus solves this

pizzeria’s minor issue.

“It’s a great place with great prices,” said computer science major Nelson Guardado while grabbing a bite to go before class.

Located at the corner of Burbank and Fulton next to the Video Hut, this delicious and welcoming pizzeria is sure to become a favorite to the classic pizza lovers and to those who are just looking to give their usual place a break.

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KARINA TOVAR, STAFF WRITER | VALLEY STAR

Dellizoso - Specials at Padrino's from 11 to 3 at the corner of Burbank and Fulton.

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LADY MONARCHS MAUL HUSKIES IN PLAYOFFS



JUMP- Monarch guard Lunden Junio-Reliford fights to get control of a jump ball in last play off game.

Lady Monarchs advance to second round of playoffs after an overtime victory.

JORGE BELON
NEWS EDITOR

Clutch free throw shooting in overtime from Monarch guard A'Jae Foster gave Valley a 92-88 playoff victory over East Los Angeles College in front of a sold-out home crowd Friday night.

"I am not even going to lie," said Foster. "I was praying when I was taking those free throws. The crowd was extremely noisy and I got nervous, but I found a way to pull through."

There were 5.9 seconds left on the clock and the Huskies had cut the Monarchs lead to two points 90-88.

East Los Angeles fouled Foster, sending her to the free throw line. Valley struggled with free-throws shooting going 50 percent from the charity stripe.

"The crowd was intense," said Monarch forward Lunden Junio-Reliford. "We had to keep our focus

and not lose control of the game."

Foster scored two of her 16 points sending the Monarchs to the next round of the playoffs.

"This was close," said Valley Coach Monica Hang. "East Los Angeles never gave up, but we kept our focus no matter what happened out there."

"This group of ladies knows how to win games," Hang said.

Valley took control of the game from the start. Lady Monarch guards Chelsea Rhamdeow and Ajai Ford led the way with 24 points combined in the first period.

The Huskies fought back as Guard Dioseline Lopez scored 16 of her 33 points in the first period. She went 5-7 in field goals including 2-3 from three point range.

Lopez's effort kept East Los Angeles close in the first period, but the Lady Monarchs headed into halftime with 51-40 lead.

In the second period, the Huskies took the momentum. Guard Monique Salcido scored a three-pointer to cut the lead to single digits, 51-43, with 18:40 to play. After Salcido's three, it was a shootout as both teams went back and forth, trading baskets.

In the final part of regulation the Lady Monarchs had a 24-point lead with 5:55 remaining.

Lopez started the Huskies' comeback, scoring 10 points in the final minutes. She sent the game into overtime with a three-point buzzer beater to tie it at 83-83.

"I knew we were going to win," Valley's Foster said. "I never once doubted it, even when they got close, or if we would have gone down by 10 points, we were not going to lose at our home. We are ready to face anybody and beat them."

Indeed, the Huskies' offensive momentum did not continue in overtime, as they only scored five points; shooting 2-9 in the five minute period.

"They were a lot better than a 14 seed," said Hang. "They challenged us all the way till the end. It got way too close."

The Lady Monarchs next home game will be on Wednesday March 5, at 7 p.m. against sixth seed Chaffey College.

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LADY MONARCHS COACH LEADS TEAM TO BACK TO BACK TITLES

Coach Monica Hang led her team to an undefeated season and another WSC championship.

KEVIN BUCKLES
STAFF WRITER

Three-time Western State Conference Coach of the Year Monica Hang has led the Monarchs to back-to-back conference championships including a 12-0 conference record and a 26-5 overall record in the 2013-14 season.

"It's not just me; it's my staff. It's the players. It's the administrators on campus who support us," Hang said.

"The honors and awards are not just for Monica Hang, it's for everybody who contributes to women's basketball and who supports what we do on campus."

She credits her Mark Keppel High School coach, former Los Angeles Laker Richard Marcus, for helping her develop as a player.

"He taught me the game of basketball, the fundamentals, how to play at 5'2" and how to play like I'm 6 feet," Hang said. "He helped me to be one of the best point guards in the state."

She won an array of awards in high school, including Almont League MVP, Pasadena Star News San Gabriel Valley All-West Player

of the Year, LA Times San Gabriel Valley (East & West) Top Eight, and First-Team All-CIF.

Her success did not stop after high school. She joined the women's basketball team at Ventura College as starting point guard, where she led her team to three straight state championships (2000-02), losing only six total games over that three year span, and was a First Team All-Conference and a two time All-State Tournament selection.

She then earned a full athletic scholarship to Cumberland College in Kentucky, where she helped her team reach a Mid-Conference Championship including an appearance at Nationals. Hang sustained equal achievements off the court, having earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Leisure Studies and Physical Education. That is the kind of work off the court work she has instilled in her players.

"That's my number one priority," Hang said. "To help them help create opportunities for themselves. It's not about the winning and losing on the court. Getting that scholarship for the student-athlete is winning to me."

Sophomore forward Myangel Johnson credits Coach Hang for pushing her to succeed while playing for Valley and in the classroom.

"She's made me want it more, as far as school," Johnson said. "She's pushed me to do good in both aspects, on the court and off the court."

Hang has infused an adage into her team that dates back to her college days to help them succeed not only on the court, but also in everyday life.

"Nothing is impossible, that is our motto," Hang said. "When somebody tells you, you can't, we're going to do it. When somebody says we're going to lose, we're going to win."

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WINNING- Coach Hang talk to her team in Fridays' play off victory against East Los Angeles Huskies.

ATHLETES SEEK TO CREATE UNION

Northwestern University players work toward creating a labor union.

ALTON PITRE
STAFF WRITER

Northwestern University football players are demanding a labor union that will provide better medical coverage, along with a paycheck to compensate the cost of athletes' pain and suffering on the football field.

The charge of this union is being led by former Northwestern quarterback Kain Colter, who reportedly signed union cards in attempt to unionize NCAA athletes according to ESPN's Outside the Lines.

In seek of assistance the Wildcats quarterback reached out to Ramogi Huma, president of the National College Players Association, leading to his file of union cards signed by the players.

"A lot of people will think this is all about the money; it's not," Colter said to the Chicago Tribune. "We're asking for a seat at the table to get our voice heard."

The opposition argues that student athletes are not employees and their involvement is not mandatory.

In response to the news, NCAA's Chief Legal Officer Donald Remy stated, "this union-backed attempt to turn student athletes into employees undermines the purpose of college: an education — many student athletes are provided scholarships and many other benefits for their participation."

By definition of the National Labor Relations Act, student athletes are not considered employees by any means. "We are confident the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) will find in our favor, as there is no right to organize student athletes," Remy concluded.

Valley College wide receiver Andrew Cruz begs to differ. "The amount of time a college player spends participating [in sports], on top of attending classes is a lot. There's no time to get a job and make money," Cruz said. "With how much money the sport brings into the school from games and merchandise, it would only be fair to give some of that [money] to the players."

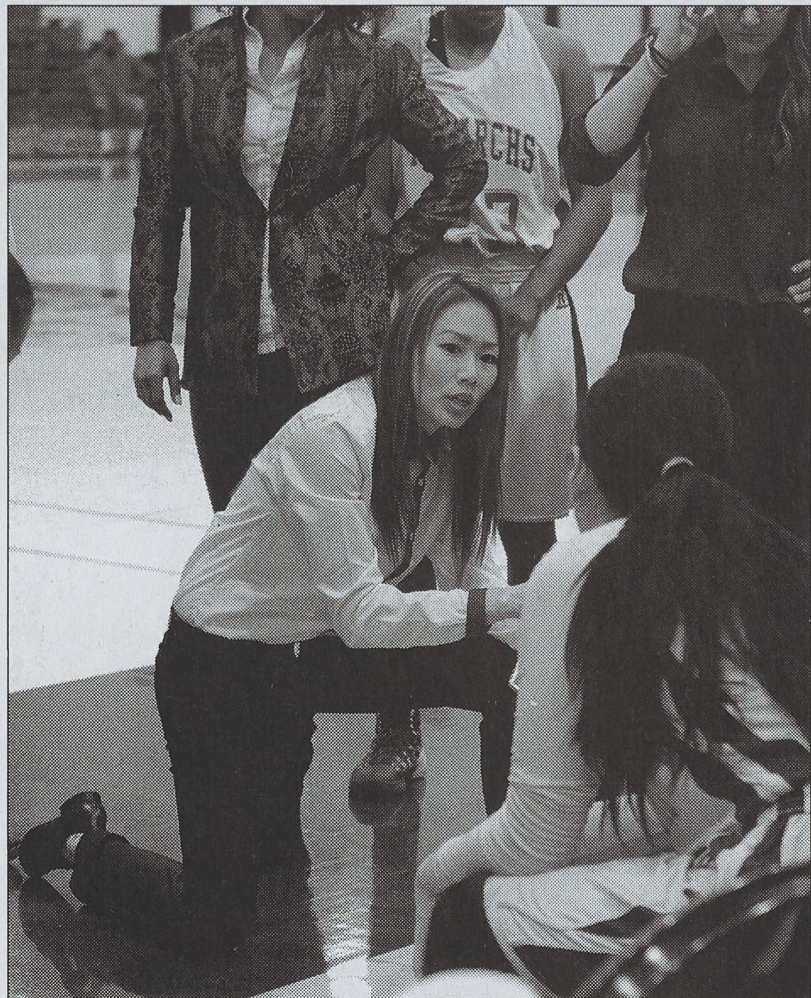
NCAA football is a multi-bil-

lion dollar year enterprise, according to Forbes. Players want a cut of the profit because of the health risks and injuries that are brought upon by the sport.

"I feel that this is a great opportunity for football players — it's good to know that [we] are finally being shown the love we need to be taken care of," said Valley's receiver/tight end Isa Bey. "Playing football means potential injuries... if this [union] is made possible [we] would feel more protected while playing. I totally agree with it; it's awesome."

The NLRB ended a hearing Feb. 25 on the student athlete unionizing efforts, where former Northwestern members gave testimonies of how they juggled between their full-time jobs and commitments to the team. The ruling is under deliberation and could take up to a month or more to review the testimonies and establish whether the football players are Northwestern employees or students.

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COACHING - Coach Monica Hang calls a timeout to go over plays with her team.

BLACK HERITAGE CELEBRATION AT VALLEY COLLEGE

PHOTOS BY
NATALIA CAMERONI AND
JAY GILLIAND

OCTOBER PRIMAVERA
STAFF WRITER

Valley College honored African-American History throughout the week of Feb. 24 to Feb. 27. Various events were coordinated around campus in recognition and remembrance. "The Garifunas", of Carib, Arwark and West African descendants performed traditional dances to the sounds of drums on Feb. 26 on stage at the Student Services Plaza. Jamican food from Sattdown Jamaican Grill was served buffet style by faculty, staff and students.

